

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (original) A pool cover assembly, comprising:

a pool cover having an aperture extending therethrough; and

a drain assembly attached to said pool cover, wherein said drain assembly comprises:

a debris filter;

a basin interconnected with said debris filter, wherein said aperture and at least a portion of said pool cover are disposed between said debris filter and said basin, wherein a weight density of said drain assembly greater than that of water.

2. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

a weight of said drain assembly is between about 5 pounds and about 9 pounds.

3. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a dead weight disposed in said basin.

4. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 3, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a dead weight disposed on a floor of said basin.

5.(original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said drain assembly further comprises a weighting feature having a first connector portion, and wherein a bottom of said basin of said drain assembly comprises a second connector portion engagable with said first connector portion.

6.(withdrawn) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a water pump disposed within said basin.

7.(original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 1, further comprising:

a drainage conduit connected to said basin of said drain assembly.

8.(original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 7, wherein:

said drainage conduit exhibits a weight density greater than that of water.

9. (currently amended) A pool cover assembly, comprising:

a flexible pool cover having a top surface, an opposing bottom surface, and an aperture that spans from said top surface to said bottom surface; and

a drain assembly attached to said pool cover, wherein said drain assembly comprises a debris filter disposed within said aperture of said pool cover and a basin located below said pool cover.

10. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 9, wherein:

at least a portion of said debris filter extends through said aperture in said pool cover and is disposed beyond said bottom surface of said pool cover.

11. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 10, wherein:

at least a portion of said debris filter sticks out from said aperture in said pool cover and is disposed beyond said top surface of said pool cover.

12. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 9, wherein:

said drain assembly exhibits a weight of between about 5 pounds and about 9 pounds.

13. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 9, wherein:

said drain assembly comprises a conduit interconnected with said debris filter.

14. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a dead weight disposed within said conduit to weight down said drain assembly.

15. (currently amended) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 13, wherein:

said conduit further comprises ~~a basin and~~ a pipe connected to said basin.

16. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 15, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a dead weight weighing at least about 5 pounds disposed within said basin.

17. (original) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 15, wherein:

said debris filter is connected to said basin, and wherein said basin interconnects said debris filter and said pipe.

18. (withdrawn) A pool system, comprising:

a pool having a floor and at least one side wall; and

a pool cover assembly comprising a pool cover having an aperture defined therein and a drain assembly attached to said pool cover and associated with said aperture of said pool cover.

19. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein:

said weight of said drain assembly is between about 5 pounds and about 9 pounds.

20. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein:

said debris filter has a substantially concave side that faces said bottom of said pool.

21. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a dead weight disposed within said drain assembly.

22. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein:

said drain assembly comprises a conduit interconnecting said debris filter and a port associated with said side of said pool.

23. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 22, wherein:

said conduit exhibits weight density of no less than about 62 lb per cubic foot.

24. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 22, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a dead weight disposed within said conduit.

25. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein:

said drain assembly comprises a basin interconnected with said debris filter and a conduit connected to said basin.

26. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 25, wherein:

a dead weight of at least about _____ pounds is disposed within said basin.

27. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 25, wherein:

a dead weight of at least about _____ pounds is attached to a bottom of said basin, wherein said dead weight is disposed between said basin and said floor of said pool.

28. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 25, wherein:

said drain assembly includes a water pump disposed within said basin.

29. (withdrawn) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 18, wherein:

said debris filter is releasably interconnected with a portion of said drain assembly in a snap-on fashion.

30. (withdrawn) A pool cover assembly, comprising:

a pool cover having a aperture extending therethrough;

a drain assembly attached to said pool cover, wherein said drain assembly comprises:

a debris filter;

a basin interconnected with said debris filter, wherein said aperture and at least a portion of said pool cover are disposed between said debris filter and said basin; and

a water pump disposed within said basin, wherein a weight density of said drain assembly is substantially equal to or greater than that of the water; and

a drainage conduit connected to said basin, wherein said drainage conduit exhibits a weight density substantially equal to or greater than that of water.

31. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, comprising:

a drain assembly wherein said drain assembly further comprises

a basin, said basin having

a base,

at least one upstanding sidewall surrounding said base defining a fluid containing cavity, said upstanding sidewall terminating in a top of said basin, said top having an upward facing opening, and

said basin further having a central longitudinal reference axis extending upward from said base through said upward facing opening;

a support retainer disposed over said top of said basin and having a central aperture extending therethrough; said aperture having a perimeter generally aligned with said upward facing opening of said basin to form a throughway; and

a debris filter interposed generally across said throughway; and

a flexible pool cover, said pool cover having an aperture extending therethrough, said aperture having a shape similar to said upward facing opening of said basin and said pool cover having a top surface and an opposing bottom surface;

said support retainer being detachably attached to said top of said basin whereby at least a portion of said pool cover adjacent to said aperture is disposed between said support retainer and said top of said basin, said support retainer being located above said top surface of said pool cover and said top of said basin being located below said bottom surface of said pool cover.

32.(new) A pool cover assembly, as claimed in Claim 31, further comprising:

a first gasket and a second gasket wherein said first gasket is disposed between said support retainer and said top surface of said pool cover and said second gasket is disposed between said top of said basin and said bottom surface of said pool cover.

33. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 32, wherein:

said debris filter is disposed within said aperture of said pool cover.

34. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 33, wherein:

at least a portion of said debris filter extends below said aperture in said pool cover and is disposed beyond said bottom surface of said pool cover; and

at least a portion of said debris filter extends above said aperture in said pool cover and is disposed beyond said top surface of said pool cover.

35. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 34, wherein:

said debris filter is removably attached to said basin.

36. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 35, wherein:

said debris filter further comprises a substantially flat top surface and at least one sidewall, said sidewall having a plurality of drainage holes.

37. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 36, further comprising:

a drainage conduit connected to said basin.

38. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 37, further comprising:

a dead weight;

said dead weight being disposed within said basin and

said dead weight having a sufficient weight to cause said drain assembly to exhibit a weight density substantially equal to or greater than water.

39.(new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 32, wherein:

said debris filter is a screen and said debris filter is releasably attached to said support retainer.

40. (new) A pool cover drain assembly, as claimed in Claim 39, wherein:

said screen has a convex side directed away from said top surface of said pool cover.

41. (new) A pool system, comprising:

a pool having a floor and at least one sidewall; and

a drain assembly wherein said drain assembly further comprises

a basin, said basin having

a base,

at least one upstanding sidewall surrounding said base defining a fluid containing cavity, said upstanding sidewall terminating in a top of said basin, said top having an upward facing opening, and

said basin further having a central longitudinal reference axis extending upward from said base through said upward facing opening;

a support retainer disposed over said top of said basin and having a central aperture extending therethrough; said aperture having a perimeter generally aligned with said upward facing opening of said basin to form a throughway; and

a debris filter interposed generally across said throughway; and

a flexible pool cover, said pool cover having an aperture extending therethrough, said aperture having a shape similar to said upward facing opening of said basin and said pool cover having a top surface and an opposing bottom surface;

said support retainer being detachably attached to said top of said basin whereby at least a portion of said pool cover adjacent to said aperture is disposed between said support retainer and said top of said basin, said support retainer being located above said top surface of said pool cover and said top of said basin being located below said bottom surface of said pool cover.

42. (new) A pool system, as in Claim 41, further comprising:

a dead weight;

said dead weight being disposed within said basin of said drain assembly and

said dead weight having a sufficient weight to cause said drain assembly to exhibit a weight density substantially equal to or greater than water; and

a drainage conduit connected to said basin.

43. (new) A pool system, as claimed in Claim 42, further comprising

a port in said at least one sidewall of said pool, said port being located a first distance above said floor of said pool wherein

said basin of said drain assembly is located a second distance above said floor of said pool, said second distance being greater than said first distance, and

said drainage conduit interconnects said basin and said port.